Mr. Gorbachev, you're no Joseph Stalin.

During your summit with President Bush, Lithuanians everywhere hope for progress on arms control and other world concerns. We, too, support your efforts to achieve peace and perestroika.

But this does not conflict with the just claims for independence by Lithuania and the other Baltic States.

Fifty years ago, Lithuania lost its independence in a secret deal between Joseph Stalin and Adolph Hitler.

Since then, Presidents Roosevelt, Truman, Eisenhower, Kennedy, Johnson, Nixon, Ford, Carter, Reagan and Bush have refused to accept this illegal annexation of our homeland.

In view of your heroic pursuit of democracy and freedom, it seems only logical that the name of another great president be added to that list. Yours.

You have proven you are no Joseph Stalin. You are Mikhail Gorbachev.

Lithuanian World Community

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